



Department of Education





Virginia Community College System

Library of Virginia

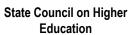
VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

FRONTIER

CULTURE

MUSEUM











Jamestown-Yorktown **Foundation**

EDUCATION

Secretary Atif Qarni

The Secretary of Education provides guidance and support to the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, as well as Virginia's public and private higher education and research centers.

Agency Expertise

The Education Secretariat includes a wide array of agencies dedicated to improving learning and preserving knowledge through schools, museums, and libraries. This range of specialized expertise and unique facilities represent a valuable resource for the commonwealth's emergency management program. Agencies are assigned in the Infrastructure Support Branch to help with damage assessment and conservation efforts; additional responsibilities include facilitation of educational services to students impacted by disaster. Additionally, public institutions of higher education may have a role in providing emergency shelter facilities, as needed.

Virginia Emergency Support Team

The Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) is the Commonwealth's coordination and support mechanism to help localities prepare for, respond to, and recover from notice and no-notice events. The VEST may be activated when the Governor declares a State of Emergency; when the impacts of an event exceed the capacity of local and regional partners; and at the direction of the VDEM State Coordinator or VEST Director in support of a high-profile emergency or non-emergency event that demonstrates a need for state-level resources.

VEST Activation Levels

The VEST uses a color-code system for denoting the levels of activation, ranging from Green/Steady State (typical for nonemergency periods) to Red/Fully Activated (during a major emergency or planned event requiring the engagement of many or all ESFs).

Condition	Condition	Condition	Condition
Green	Yellow	Orange	Red
STEADY	ACTIVATED -	PARTIALLY	FULLY
STATE	MONITORING	ACTIVATED	ACTIVATED

VEST Liaison Officers – EMCs – Public Information Officers

Each Executive Branch Agency and public institution of higher education appoints:

- Primary and alternate VEST Liaison Officers (VLOs) to serve as the main point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters. VLOs shall have subject matter expertise to staff ESFs, dedicate resources, or fulfill other assignments upon VEST activation.
- Primary and alternate Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs); under the EMC, each agency or public institution of higher education shall develop and maintain plans that outline the actions to be taken by facility occupants during emergency situations, severe weather scenarios, and related preparedness drills.
- Primary and alternate Public Information Officers (PIOs) are responsible for interfacing with the public, media, other agencies and stakeholders to provide incident-related information and updates on the status of an incident or event.

VLO PIO **EMC**

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Emergency Support Functions

Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) group governmental and certain private sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, program implementation and services that are most likely needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal following incidents.

Each ESF has a Lead Agency and Supporting Agencies that collaborate to execute their responsibilities. The Secretariat of Education Lead and Supporting agencies are indicated in **bold face**.

6 Mass Care

Coordinates delivery of state services; implementation of the Commonwealth's mass care, sheltering and related plans; and coordination of support to local government and non-governmental organization mass care and emergency assistance operations.

<u>Lead</u> Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Social Services

12 Energy

Coordinates the restoration of damaged or destroyed energy systems and components during an emergency incident.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

1 Transportation

Integrates the responsibilities of state agencies for the prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, infrastructure restoration, safety, and security of all Commonwealth transportation infrastructures.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

7 Logistics

Manage and provide resources, including disaster procurement, warehousing and distribution in support of emergency response and recovery operations.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

13 Public Safety & Security

Integrates state-level public safety and security capabilities and resources to support response activities associated with potential or actual incidents.

Lead Supporting

Virginia State Police

2 Communications

Assists state agencies, local governments, private-sector entities, and voluntary organizations requiring communications and information technology (IT) related equipment and services in preparation for or in response to emergencies and disasters.

<u>Lead</u> Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

8 Public Health & Medical Services

Coordinates state-level operations and coordinates state support of local government and non-governmental operations.

<u>Lead</u> Supporting

Virginia Department of Health

14 Private Sector

This is a newly designated ESF. Coordinates role of business community stakeholders and private sector partners in support of Commonwealth's response and recovery operations.

<u>Lead</u> Supporting

Virginia Community College System

EDUCATION

3 Public Works & Engineering

Coordinates and organizes the delivery of essential public works and engineering services using the capabilities and resources of the Commonwealth.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Department of Health Department of General Services

9 Search and Rescue

Deploys components of the SAR Response System to provide specialized life-saving assistance to local jurisdictions during any type of incident.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

15 Joint Information Center (JIC)

Provides accurate, coordinated, and timely information to private sector, general public and government agencies during a potential or actual incident.

Lead Supporting
Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management All Agencies

4 Firefighting

Monitors and supports firefighting activities, including the detection and suppression of fires on all private, state, and federal lands and provides resource support as needed.

<u>Lead</u> Supporting

Department of Fire Programs
Department of Forestry

10 Oil & Hazardous Materials Response

Coordinates and directs state support in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or uncontrolled release of oil or hazardous materials.

Lead Supporting

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

16 Military Affairs

Integrates all supporting Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Military Affairs resources into the Commonwealth's coordinated response.

Lead Supporting

Department of Military Affairs

5 Emergency Management

The VEST Command and General Staff make up ESF 5. The Command and General Staff includes the State Coordinator, VEST Director, VEST Team Lead, Health and Safety Officer, Access and Functional Needs Chief, PIO and Private Sector.

ESF 5 coordinates and supports the overall activities of state government as related to emergency management.

11 Agriculture & Natural Resources

Coordinates state-level operations and coordinates state support of local government and non-governmental operations.

Lead Supporting

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management

17 Volunteer & Donations Management

Coordinates and integrates the delivery of donated goods and volunteer services from non-profit organizations and individuals in support of disaster relief.

Lead Supporting